

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 7-10 of the originally filed application with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application  
No. 09/412,560 No. 09/412560, filed October 5, 1999, entitled "Method and Apparatus  
for Optimizing Multivariate Allocation of Resources," now U.S. Patent No. 6,684,193  
~~Attorney Docket No. RAPT001~~, by at least one of the same inventors, and which is  
hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.